

## AMENDMENTS

### Amendments to the Specification:

On page 4, please amend the description under the Brief Description of the Drawing heading to read:

[Paragraphs from line 12 to line 23]

FIG. 1 is a network diagram showing a global research and development (R&D) matching system according to an exemplary embodiment of the present invention in communication with R&D buyers, suppliers, experts, and brokers;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a computer system suitable for use in implementing an exemplary embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is an overview flowchart of the methods of the present invention; and

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of a buyer database record;

FIG. 5 is a block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of an RFP record;

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of an exemplary embodiment of an R&D supplier database;

FIG. 7 is an example of a search results list screen layout; and

FIG. 8 is another example of a search results list screen layout; and

FIG. ~~8~~ 9 is an example of a block diagram of a proposal record.